

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A remote control device for scheduling television recordings without interfering with a television program being currently watched on a television, comprising:

a wireless receiver for receiving television program schedule information from an interactive television system;

a display device for displaying the television program schedule information;

an input device for receiving a user selection of a television program from the displayed television program schedule information; and

a wireless transmitter for transmitting an indication of the selected television program to the interactive television system to program a recording device to automatically record the selected television program, wherein the recording device is further to store background information for at least one television program for later display on the display device, the background information including at least one of the following: pictures of actors and actresses, video previews, and audio/video interviews with people associated with the program.

2. (original) The device of claim 1, wherein the wireless receiver comprises a radio-frequency receiver.

3. (original) The device of claim 1, wherein the wireless receiver comprises an infrared receiver.

4. (original) The device of claim 1, further comprising:
a processor integrated with the remote control for generating an electronic programming guide from the television program schedule information, the electronic programming guide for display on the display device.
5. (original) The device of claim 4, wherein the electronic programming guide comprises a plurality of rows corresponding to channels and a plurality of columns corresponding to time slots.
6. (previously presented) The device of claim 4, wherein the indication of the television program comprises an indication of at least a channel and a start time.
7. (previously presented) The device of claim 6, wherein the indication of the television program comprises a VCR Plus code, which is automatically transmitted by the remote control device in response to the user selection of the television program.
8. (previously presented) The device of claim 6, wherein the wireless receiver is to receive a secondary television signal from the interactive television system for display on the display device.
9. (original) The device of claim 6, wherein the display device is touch sensitive, such that the television program is selected in response to a user touching an indication of the television program on the display device.

10. (currently amended) An entertainment system comprising:
 - a set top box configured to provide a television signal to a first display device, the set top box further configured to store television program schedule information; and
 - a remote control for the set top box configured to receive the television program schedule information from the set top box using a wireless method, the remote control comprising a second display device configured to display the television program schedule information, the remote control further comprising a storage device to store a secondary television signal received from the set top box for later display on the second display device, wherein the storage device is to store background information for at least one television program for later display on the second display device, the background information including at least one of the following: pictures of actors and actresses, video previews, and audio/video interviews with people associated with the program.
11. (previously presented) The system of claim 10, wherein the set top box comprises a wireless transmitter configured to transmit the television program schedule information and secondary television signal to the remote control.
12. (previously presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the wireless transmitter comprises at least one of a radio-frequency transmitter and an infrared transmitter.

13. (previously presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the remote control comprises a wireless receiver configured to receive the television program schedule information and the secondary television signal from the wireless transmitter in the set top box.

14. (previously presented) The system of claim 13, wherein the wireless receiver comprises at least one of a radio-frequency receiver and an infrared receiver.

15. (original) The system of claim 10, wherein a network stores a database comprising television program schedule information, and wherein the set top box comprises a network interface configured to access the database and receive the television program schedule information from the network.

16. (original) The system of claim 15, wherein the network comprises a cable network.

17. (previously presented) The system of claim 15, wherein set top box is configured to receive automatic updates of the television program schedule information from the network.

18. (previously presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the automatic updates of the television program schedule information are received using a carousel technique.

19. (previously presented) The system of claim 15, wherein the set top box is configured to receive the television program schedule information in response to a request from the set top box.

20. (original) The system of claim 10, wherein the remote control comprises a processor configured to generate an electronic programming guide from the television program schedule information, the electronic programming guide for display on the second display device.

21. (original) The system of claim 20, wherein the electronic programming guide comprises a plurality of rows corresponding to channels and a plurality of columns corresponding to time slots.

22. (original) The system of claim 20, wherein the electronic programming guide comprises at least one indication of a television program, and wherein the remote control comprises a wireless transmitter configured to transmit a control signal in response to a user selection of a television program from the electronic programming guide.

23. (original) The system of claim 22, wherein the control signal is configured to cause the first display device to display the selected television program.
24. (original) The system of claim 22, wherein the control signal is configured to cause a video recording device to record the selected television program.
25. (original) The system of claim 22, wherein the second display device is touch sensitive, such that the television program is selected in response to a user touching an indication of the television program on the second display device.
26. (currently amended) A method for providing an electronic programming guide for scheduling television recordings without interfering with a television program being currently watched on a television, comprising:
 - receiving television program schedule information at a set top box;
 - transmitting the television program schedule information to a remote control for the set top box;
 - displaying the television program schedule information on a display device integrated with the remote control;
 - receiving a user selection of a television program from the displayed television program schedule information; and
 - transmitting an indication of the selected television program to program a recording device to automatically record the selected television program.

storing background information for at least one television program for later display on the display device, the background information including at least one of the following: pictures of actors and actresses, video previews, and audio/video interviews with people associated with the program.

27. (previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein a network stores a database comprising the television program schedule information, and wherein receiving comprises:

receiving the television program schedule information from the network.

28. (original) The method of claim 27, wherein the network comprises a cable network.

29. (original) The method of claim 26, wherein transmitting comprises:
transmitting the television program schedule information from a wireless transmitter in the set top box to a wireless receiver in the remote control.

30. (original) The method of claim 26, wherein displaying comprises:
generating an electronic programming guide from the television program schedule information for display on the display device.

31. (original) The method of claim 30, wherein the electronic programming guide comprises a plurality of rows corresponding to channels and a plurality of columns corresponding to time slots.
32. (previously presented) The method of claim 30, wherein the indication of the television program comprises an indication of at least a channel and a start time.
33. (previously presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the indication of the television program comprises a VCR Plus code, which is automatically transmitted by the remote control in response to the user selection of the television program.
34. (previously presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the wireless receiver is to receive a secondary television signal from the interactive television system for display on the display device integrated with the remote control.
35. (original) The method of claim 32, wherein the display device is touch sensitive, such that the television program is selected in response to a user touching an indication of the television program on the display device.
36. (canceled).
37. (previously presented) The system of claim 10, wherein the storage device comprises a hard drive.